

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
UTILITY DIVISION  
AGENDA NO. 97-9-2**

Date Prepared: August 28, 1997

For Work Week Commencing: September 1, 1997

Business Meeting Date & Time: September 2, 1997, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, placed on the state electronic bulletin board, and posted to the PSC's world wide web site at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission Secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

**Work Sessions** All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. MPC Docket D96.2.22/SB396 - Discuss and act on motions filed and anticipated, other matters as necessary, if necessary, updates, information to PSC (9/3/97)
2. PSC vs. USWC Docket D97.7.116 - Update PSC on settlement, discuss and act on procedural schedule if necessary (9/3/97)
3. Project EAS Docket D97.2.23 - Updates, discussion and action as necessary (9/3/97)
4. AT&T/USWC Docket D96.11.200 - Discuss developments in this matter and AT&T's letter dated 8/22/97 (9/3/97)
5. Montana Wireless/USWC Docket D97.8.142 - Act on Motion to Withdraw Petition for Arbitration and discuss other matters if necessary (9/3/97)
6. Clark Fork/Blackfoot Docket D97.7.124 - Review comments received following request in notice previously issued--relating to PSC jurisdiction to approve Blackfoot's application (9/3/97)

7. Requests for ETC Designations - Clarification of various matter and approval of draft notice (9/3/97)
8. AT&T petition for rulemaking - Discuss status of this rulemaking; discuss Eighth Circuit Court's opinion relating to dialing parity (9/3/97)
9. FCC Universal Service Reform - Discuss the status of federal universal service matters and filing comments in support of petitions for reconsideration of the FCC's universal service order (9/3/97)
10. Rulemaking on Licensing, Other Potential Issues - Continued discussion on rulemaking and preliminary procedures on licensing, as well as, forecasting other rulemaking needs (9/3/97)
11. Weekly **AND** Monthly Scheduling Meetings - Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

**Action Items** All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. PACIFICORP - Docket D97.7.91 (Denise)

On August 19, 1997, Energy West Resources, Incorporated, an energy marketer, submitted a late-filed petition for intervenor status in PacifiCorp's transition plan proceedings. Energy West represents that it will not seek any delay in the procedural schedule or prejudice the proceedings. Staff recommends approval.

2. MCI/BRITISH TELECOM - Docket D96.11.184 (Karen)

On November 8, 1996, MCI and British Telecommunications plc notified the Commission of their intention to file an application for approval of a merger between the two companies. On January 27, 1997, the Commission received the application. On August 21, 1997, the FCC approved the merger of MCI and BT. A Final Order has been drafted.

3. ELIGIBLE CARRIER DESIGNATION - Docket D96.2.18 (Karen)

On August 26, 1997, the Commission held a work session at which it designated incumbent local exchange carriers as eligible carriers, on an interim basis. Eligible carrier status was specifically granted to all Montana ILECs which had requested such designation, as well as U S WEST Communications and Nemont Telephone Cooperative, companies which had not requested the designation. Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association is the only company which did not request designation and which was not discussed at the work session. An order has been prepared reflecting the Commission's actions and designating Nemont as an eligible carrier as well.

4. PACIFIC TELECOM, INC. - Docket N97.4.58 (Bonnie)

Pursuant to Commission direction, a final order has been drafted approving the Digitrex Plus tariff filing by Northwestern Telephone Systems, Inc. dba PTI Communications (Tariff Advice 96-1).

5. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.8.151 (Bonnie)

On August 15, 1997, US WEST Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-28, introducing InterNet Listing options (E-Mail and URL Address Listings) to Directory Listing Services, Exchange and Network Services Tariff.

6. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.8.152 (Bonnie)

On August 15, 1997, US WEST Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-29, introducing National Directory Assistance Service. This is a service by which a local USWC customer can obtain telephone numbers for any location within the US by dialing the local directory assistance number.

**Notice Items** All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP. - Docket N97.8.159 (Nina)

On August 25, 1997, MCI filed Tariff Transmittal Letter No. 97-17, proposing the following: (1) to make changes to the usage threshold and introduce intraLATA rates for Option Y (Home MCI One); and (2) to extend the Intralata Calling Promotion 2, from August 31, 1997 until December 31, 1997.

2. PACIFICORP - Docket D97.8.158 (Eric)

On August 25, 1997, PP&L filed an application seeking authority to (1) issue and sell or exchange not more than \$1,150,000,000 of debt, (2) enter into credit support arrangements and (3) enter into currency exchanges. This application represents an increase of \$400,000,000 in debt from the \$750,000,000 granted by the Commission in Docket No. D96.2.25, Default Order No. 5900.

**Information Items** All items identified below are for information only.

**Tentative Action Items for Agenda 97-9-8**

Docket D97.8.158 PacifiCorp (Eric)  
Docket N97.8.159 MCI (Nina)

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

D97.8.157 Montana Wireless - Application for Approval of an IntraLATA Toll Dialing Parity Implementation Plan  
D97.8.158 PacifiCorp - Security Issue  
N97.8.159 MCI - Revise Option Y (homeMCI One); Extend IntraLATA Calling Promo and miscellaneous text changes